

petition was filed. By petition the people of the city decided that they wanted district elections for the school board. That is what we have now. This particular organization feels very strongly that the school board should be elected at large. So they attempted to interject, into this process again, the controversy of district versus at large, which none of us are interested in doing. We are just interested in adding one more member to the school board. However, the committee amendments may have assuaged their feelings somewhat in the sense that certain committee members had objections to going through the trauma of drawing up new district boundaries. Therefore, in order to avoid that problem, suggested to us, and we adopted their suggestion or agreed with them, that this seventh member would be an at large member until the next census. So in that sense I think the people who objected to another district...by district member are probably satisfied with this compromise. But they wouldn't be totally satisfied because there is this existing controversy.

SENATOR PIRSCH: That sounds like a good compromise to me. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, I'd like to ask Senator Beutler a question, if I may.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, would you respond, please.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Chris, I can't recall but how many times has the board come to a deadlock, where they've come to a 3-3 vote that they couldn't advance the budget, or they had problems addressing situations where they've had a deadlock? Is that a thing that's happened quite often?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Is it a reoccurring problem?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: No, I think it is only a once in a long while problem (inaudible).

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: I noticed, in following the Lincoln paper, that three of the members of the board now chose not to run again. So there will be some new people coming on.